

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a network, in which addresses are assigned to communication components, said addresses allowing the components to communicate with one another. Several communication components comprise integrated search functions for determining the addresses of resources that are installed in other communication components. To determine the addresses, each of said search functions sends a first search notification, as a consequence of which each communication component that has been contacted returns a hit response comprising its address. The search function subsequently sends a second search notification containing information concerning the desired resources to at least one of the communication components that have been determined, whereby a communication component that can provide one of the desired resources replies to the second search notification. The resources comprise communication services that can be used in the network and the reply to the second search notification contains specific information concerning the respective communication service. The communication components that reply to the second search notification also forward said second notification to other communication components.